



(Entomological Series, No. 6.)  
(Sericulture.)

THE  
AGRICULTURAL LEDGER.

1897—No. II.



SILK.

(BURMA SILK.)

[*DICTIONARY OF ECONOMIC PRODUCTS, Vol. VI., Pt. III.,  
S. 1829.*]



THE SILK INDUSTRY IN YAMETHIN DISTRICT.

PYINMANA SUB-DIVISION.

Note by A. G. COOKE, Esq., I.C.S., Sub-Divisional Officer, Pyinmana.



*Other PAPERS that may be consulted :*

The Agricultural Ledger Nos. 19 of 1894 and 26 of 1896.



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The objects of THE AGRICULTURAL LEDGER are :—

- (1) To provide information connected with agriculture or with economic products in a form which will admit of its ready transfer to ledgers ;
- (2) To secure the maintenance of uniform ledgers (on the plan of the Dictionary) in all offices concerned in agricultural subjects throughout India, so that references to ledger entries made in any report or publication may be readily utilised in all offices where ledgers are kept ;
- (3) To admit of the circulation, in convenient form, of information on any subject connected with agriculture or economic products to officials or other persons interested therein ;
- (4) To secure a connection between all papers of interest published on subjects relating to economic products and the official Dictionary of Economic Products. With this object the information published in these Ledgers will uniformly be given under the name and number of the Dictionary article which they more especially amplify. When the subject dealt with has not been taken up in the Dictionary, the position it very possibly would occupy in future issues of that work will be assigned to it.

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The particulars given below are reproduced, with the permission of the Burma Government, as a supplement to *The Agricultural Ledger*, No. 26 of 1896:—

The villages at which silk is worked in the sub-division are the following:—

Chaungzu.	Swèdawmyaung.
Thayetchaung.	Pedônmyaung.
	Myogôn.

The worm is said to have come originally from Kanyinmaw in the Magwè district. Hatching takes ten days; the caterpillars moult on the 5th, 8th, 12th, and 17th days after hatching, lying dormant for one day each time: ten days after the last moult they spin the cocoon. The fly which kills them when young is called *yingyi* here. The *sagaw*, the *paing*, *phine*, etc., are exactly the same as those described by Mr. Allan. The *sagaw* is kept covered for 22 days out of the 27. The cocoon spinning in the *paing* takes 24 hours; when it is complete they are put back into the *sagaw* for two days.

With reference to the *Po-win-oo* described and illustrated in Mr. Allan's note, on this side the Yoma C is the *pozet* (not *posit*), A and B being called *pozettan*, there is an upright post or lathe to support the erection called *hmandaing*.

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## *The Agricultural Ledger.*

### SILK.

### The Silk Industry in Yamethin District.

Ten *sagaws* are said to yield a viss\* of silk. A viss of silk sells at about £12; the market is chiefly at Taungdwingyi. I cannot find there is any trade with Swa (Toungoo), and I do not think it probable as there is said to be a superior kind of worm used there. The process of working the *tanyinlôn* is called *nginthe*; from the *tanyinlôn* the silk is re-wound on to a larger instrument called *poya-hat*, which resembles a cross thus—



and is turned by a wheel; this process is called *thuthi*. No weaving or dyeing is done here.

With regard to breeding, the bins, which are here called *gwe*, are placed on a cloth and about 20 females in one *gwe*; ten *gwe*s are sold for the rupee.

The industry would be on a larger scale if the villages were not entirely surrounded by forest reserves, which limit the cultivation of mulberry.

\* 1 viss = 3'65lb avoirdupois.

S. 1829.

All communications regarding THE AGRICULTURAL LEDGER should be addressed to the Editor, Dr. George Watt, Reporter on Economic Products to the Government of India, Calcutta.

The objects of this publication (as already stated) are to gradually develop and perfect our knowledge of Indian Agricultural and Economic questions. Contributions or corrections and additions will therefore be most welcome.

In order to preserve a necessary relation to the various Departments of Government, contributions will be classified and numbered under certain series. Thus, for example, papers on Veterinary subjects will be registered under the Veterinary Series; those on Forestry in the Forest Series. Papers of more direct Agricultural or Industrial interest will be grouped according as the products dealt with belong to the Vegetable or Animal Kingdom. In a like manner, contributions on Mineral and Metallic subjects will be registered under the Mineral Series.

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